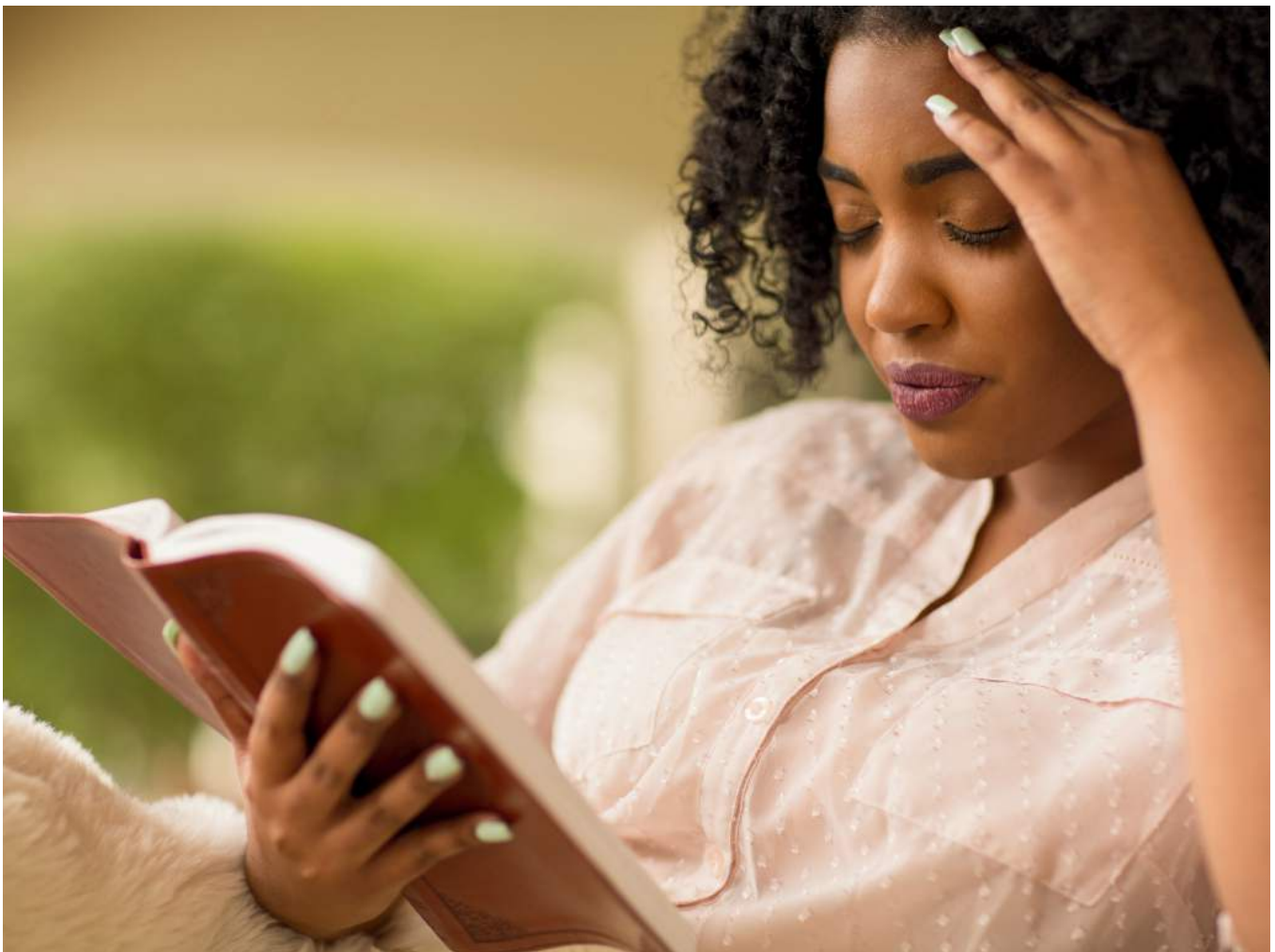


TIME IN THE WORD

FOR HOMESCHOOLERS



Anne Elliott



Welcome

To the Instruction Manual for Life

With my whole heart I have sought You;
Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!

Psalm 119:10

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A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a white ceramic cup with a black floral pattern. The cup is filled with a light-colored liquid, likely tea. The person is holding the cup over an open Bible, which is resting on a surface. The Bible's pages are filled with text, and the person's fingers are visible near the cup's handle. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the person and the Bible.

01

WHY DO WE NEED THE BIBLE?

It's a warm, sunny day in August when a tall man and his wife invite you into their home. You settle on the wooden chairs around the dining room table, and tendrils from your hair blow slightly from the ceiling fan's cool air. The walls of the bright, yellow kitchen beam at you, and the plates on the shelves smile down at you. The gentle strains of a guitar drift over from the CD player in the corner, while a big dog snoozes in another.

You take leisurely sips from a tall glass of tea as a young child toddles over and pats her mother's leg. The smells of supper simmering on the stove comfort you as you begin to tell her what's going

on in your life.

For two hours, these kind believers listen as you pour out your story. You share a little of yourself as you tell about the broken relationships, the financial hardships, and the problems in your home.

As the cat rubs against your host's leg, begging for more milk, you ask if there is any solution to your problems. The man picks up his Bible from the desk against the wall, and with familiar fingers, he thumbs through the pages, showing you some of YHVH's answers, much like a physician offers hope to a dying patient.

Why does this godly couple—and

others like them—have so much hope to offer? Where did they ever learn to navigate the pages of Scripture with such confidence? How did they uncover the secrets of spiritual abundance that remain hidden to so many?

This is a question that plagued us for years, as we've observed the lives of men and women we knew. Karen¹ repented of her sin, trusted in Yeshua, and began walking in Torah before we met her. She had been living with one man after another and was heavily involved with the drug scene on the beaches of California. One Saturday night, while wandering from one nightclub to another, she saw a group of young adults sitting around a bonfire at the water's edge. They sang happily as one man accompanied them with his guitar. In their jeans, they sang of the Creator, and their joy was the magnet that drew Karen to them. Soon after, she repented of her sin, and by the time we met her years later, she and her husband were spiritual leaders among the married couples at the congregation we all attended. Today, her husband writes biblical commentaries, and they enjoy a family life that honors Yehovah.

Wendy, on the other hand, was born and raised in a Christian home. She attended church and Sunday school faithfully as a child and even went to a Christian school. Yet when she was grown, she married an unsaved man and was uncertain how to help her three sons learn to submit to her authority. She rarely read her Bible and was often plagued by doubts of her salvation.

Recently, a cult member knocked on her door, and now Wendy is attending their weekly meetings.

Then there is Sharon, who grew up in an abusive home. Her grandmother arranged for her to ride a bus to church when she was in second grade, and there she dutifully learned her memory verses and even prayed a prayer to accept Christ during summer vacation Bible school. However, when she was a teenager, her older sister got pregnant out of wedlock, and her younger brother was institutionalized for psychological disturbances. Sharon blamed YHWH. She continues to long for a spiritual element in her life, so she has turned to a New Age lifestyle and to the mysticism it represents. She recently took a Christian book and crossed out every reference to God, replacing it with her own name instead.

I also know a young mother named Jennifer who, at the tender age of three, prayed to ask Jesus to wash her sins away. Her faithful parents consistently taught her how to know God in a personal way and how to apply His Word to every area of her life. Later, she came to understand that the Torah still applies to us today, and she committed to obeying it to the best of her ability. Today, she and her husband serve as missionaries in a forgotten town in Europe. Though separated from her family back in the states, she joyfully opens her home to her new neighbors and shares how they too can know Truth. Now her own young daughter can recite the books

¹true stories but names have been changed

of the Bible and her little toddler son is obedient and a joy to be around.

What makes the difference? Each of these women—and countless others, both men and women—has been exposed to the Scriptures. Some are taught about YHVH as young children, while others dig in and study as adults. Still others turn from the truth in the Bible and deny the knowledge of God.

Knowing YHVH is more than a feeling, more than attending church, and more than saying a prayer. Knowing YHVH means learning the Father's mind and allowing His Ruach (the Holy Spirit) to enter your life, remaking you from the inside out. This can only be accomplished by learning to consistently study and apply His Word, the Bible, to your life.

Studying the Bible daily gives us tools that are perfect for what we need to tackle the challenges of life. YHVH speaks to us through His Word, and when we learn to intentionally open its pages and hide its words in our hearts, YHVH's power takes the rough edges off our lives and polishes them into masterpieces—to His glory.

What are some of the tools that are hidden in the pages of this ancient book? Why can they so strongly impact our lives? Let's look at seven tools YHVH's Word contains.

The Bread of Life

Near the beginning of your Bible, you'll read how God brought the nation

of Israel out from slavery in Egypt and provided for them as they traveled to the land He had promised them. One of His miraculous provisions was manna—small, honey-flavored wafers that mysteriously appeared on the desert sand each morning. This “bread from heaven” fed the Israelites for over forty years.

In the book of Deuteronomy, Moses records for us why God provided this food for His people:

“So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of YHVH” (Deuteronomy 8:3).

Like the children of Israel, we also need to learn that our life is dependent, not on material things, but on the eternal Word of God.

The busyness of daily living, stresses at work and home, emotions tugging us this way and that, can all take their toll. We can easily be deceived into thinking that we are capable of fixing all our problems ourselves, without any supernatural help from YHVH. In a desperate search for money, happiness, or peace, we forget that we are utterly dependent on YHVH.

We need to return to the nourishment found only in the sustaining Scriptures He has given us.

Heart Check:

- Do you feel self-sufficient, or do you realize how much you need God?
- Here's how you'll know: How long has it been since you spent significant time in His Word?

The Honey of the Word

The Psalmist wrote,

"How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" (Psalm 119:103).

Unlike our friend Sharon who is turning to mysticism for fulfillment and literally despises the Word of Elohim, we have found that the more we meditate on Scripture, the sweeter it becomes.

As we discipline ourselves to meditate on it "all day long" (Psalm 119:97), it becomes even sweeter than honey.

- It imparts to us wisdom that carries us through the roughest times.
- It gives us an understanding of YHWH that can be the envy of the world's most learned men, because through its pages we develop intimate relationships with YHWH Himself.
- It helps us avoid the mistakes people have made repeatedly throughout history as we learn to apply its principles to our

everyday lives.

- We begin to see the world through YHWH's eyes, loving what He loves and hating what He hates.

The sweeter YHWH's Word becomes to us, the more time we spend reading it. The more we read it and apply it to our lives, the sweeter our lives become.

Heart Check:

- Is spending time with YHWH in His Word sweet to you?
- Here's how you'll know: Do you have a consistent, daily time scheduled for Bible reading and study that is of higher priority than any other activity in your day?

Solid Food for Growth

The author of the book of Hebrews wrote to the church in Jerusalem,

"...you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Hebrews 5:11-14).

We have noticed this same problem on a broad scale in our society today. Men and women, husbands and wives, fathers and mothers are too often unskilled in using and understanding the Bible, unsure of what is right and what is wrong. Often years after they come to know Yeshua the Messiah, at a time when they should be spiritually mature and ready to teach others, they themselves are still spiritual babies who need to be taught the basics of living according to His Torah. They need spiritual spoon feeding!

Yet these verses say that the man of God who trains (“exercises”) himself through frequent use of the “word of righteousness” will finally be able to discern between good and evil.



Heart Check:

- Can you tell between right and wrong, or do you continuously need help from more mature believers to make decisions?
- Here’s how you’ll know: Are you confident that you know your Bible well enough to apply it to your own problems and to offer biblical solutions to others?

More Precious Than Gold

In Psalm 19, King David penned a song that told of the two ways we can know YHVH—through Creation and through the written Scriptures.

He beautifully describes how the stars in the sky proclaim the living Creator and how “there is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard” (Psalm 19:3).

Yet He then describes himself as wealthy because the God of heaven has made Himself known to us personally through the pages of the Bible.

- Simple people can become wise and hold the treasures of YHVH in their hearts.
- The young can be spared from life-crippling mistakes by taking heed to the Scripture’s warnings.
- The Word of YHVH is forever and can therefore be depended upon.

That is why David proclaims,

“More to be desired [is the Torah of YHVH] than gold, yea, than much fine gold” (Psalm 19:10).

Is it any wonder, then, that Satan desires to downplay the value of YHVH’s Word? The great deceiver would have you believe that the Bible is just a story or a fairy tale, useful only for children or for the ignorant. Educated people, he claims, can see through its restrictive and antiquated beliefs. True wealth, says he, comes only when we look within ourselves and realize the potential found there.

Yet YHVH’s Word promises that in the keeping of His Torah there is great reward.

We are faced with a choice, whether to seek for ultimate truth within ourselves

or within His eternal commands.

Heart Check:

- Is YHVH's Word more precious than gold to you?
- Here's how you'll know: When your own opinion disagrees with the Bible's instruction, whose advice do you follow?

A Living Sword

We are engaged in a battle, even as duties, dishes, diapers, or dilemmas surround us. This is not a battle that can be seen with our eyes; rather, it's a battle for our hearts. Thankfully,

"the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

When we immerse ourselves in the Bible, YHVH is able to pierce through the obstacles in our heart and to show us exactly what we are.

The Apostle Paul wrote,

"There is none righteous, no, not one;
There is none who understands;
There is none who seeks after God.
They have all turned aside;
They have together become unprofitable;

There is none who does good, no, not one" (Romans 3:10-12).

As we begin to spend time studying our Bibles, the Holy Spirit starts to reveal to us who we really are. It's not pretty!

Often, as old wounds are re-opened by the Sword of Scripture and as our inner spirits are pierced with conviction, we decide that knowing YHVH is not worth the pain.

Slam! Our Bibles are closed, and we head back to the world that will affirm us and bolster our shaky self-confidence.

Yet if we allow YHVH's Word to pierce our lives, His Spirit can win the battle of sin for us. He is stronger than the enemy, and with the mighty sword of His Word, He can create new life within.

It's a matter of choosing to let Him in.

Heart Check:

- Will you allow Scripture to pierce your life?
- Here's how you'll know: When you don't know what to do, do you open your Bible first of all, allowing His Spirit to do "open-heart surgery" on you?

A Fire and a Hammer

YHVH's Word is all-powerful.

Sometimes I'm distressed when I see my friends falling prey to seemingly innocent "prophets" who appear to have all the answers.

"I know what I'm talking about! I'm an expert – listen to me!" they cry.

I feel like shaking my friends and shouting, "Wake up! Don't let yourselves be fooled!"

Yet the Father comforts me when He reminds me of the power of His Word.

"The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; and he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat?' says YHVH. 'Is not My word like a fire?' says YHVH, 'and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?'"

He tells us to continue to speak His Word boldly and faithfully.

We shouldn't allow ourselves to become distressed by the apparent success of those who deny the truth of YHVH.

- His Word is like a fire that can separate senseless chaff from valuable wheat.
- His Word is like a hammer that can penetrate hearts that look like stone.

We can have utter trust in YHVH's Word, that it will accomplish what He sent it forth to do.

Heart Check:

- Do desperate world events and wicked public opinion shake your faith?
- Here's how you'll know: Do you know specifically which verses to turn to for comfort when "the bad guys" seem to be winning?

An Everlasting Seed

One of the most exciting things about allowing YHVH's Word to enter our hearts is the new life that begins to sprout within us. The apostle Peter wrote that we have

"been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, because 'All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, but the word of YHVH endures forever'" (1 Peter 1:23-25).

Later Peter writes,

"If these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Master Yeshua the Messiah" (2 Peter 1:8).

YHVH promises us a fruitful and fulfilling life when we align our lives by the principles found in His Word. This is an enduring, eternal life, and we will enjoy its benefits forever.

Just knowing this makes me want to pledge to be more faithful in my Bible study, to be more consistent in the disciplines of knowing YHVH. I want to claim His promise that meditating on His Word and observing to do all He's written in it will give me true prosperity in His eyes.

Women are born with a natural desire

to be mothers, and I've certainly felt that tug to hold a newborn infant and care for it.

I also want to have "spiritual babies"—people whose lives are changed by the living Word of Elohim overflowing from my life. I don't want to be barren! I want to share the peace and joy I've found in God, and I want to delight in my spiritual offspring for all eternity.



Heart Check:

- Are you a fruitful believer?
- Here's how you'll know: Can you name at least five people whose lives have been changed because you shared the Scriptures with them?

Using the Tools of God's Word

I hope I've caught your interest and inspired you to begin diving into your Bible.

However, I don't want to merely motivate you to study; I want to teach you how.

- Let's look at some simple ways that anyone can begin to read and understand the Bible.
- As we go, I want to help you stretch as you learn to study the Bible deeper.
- Finally, I want to help you pass on your knowledge to those around you, showing you in practical ways how you can be fruitful in

your knowledge of Yeshua the Messiah.

YHWH's Word has the power to forever change the course of your life. Will you open up your heart and allow Him to speak to you?

If so, maybe someday your home can be the place of new beginnings for other men and women who are searching for truth.

Doesn't that sound exciting?



Let's Pray...

Blessed are you, YHWH our Elohim, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments.

We thank you that you have revealed yourself to us through the written Word of YHWH. We realize what a precious treasure we hold, and we pray that as we open its pages and begin to read, You will search our hearts and change us.

Pry loose sin's grip on us, and renew our minds in the knowledge of You.

Give us Your true wisdom. Help us to overflow into the lives of others, making a lasting difference in this world.

In Yeshua's name we pray, Amen.



02

THE SCRIPTURES, HIS GIFT OF GRACE

“And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:13).

When you're new at walking in YHVH's ways, it's normal to feel a little overwhelmed. However, God has revealed Himself to you in the exact same way He has to everyone else. He only asks that you seek for Him.

The Grace of God

Is it natural for us to desire to draw close to Him? Indeed not, for Scripture says,

“There is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God” (Romans 3:11).

But YHVH says that He has been drawing you to Him since before time began. He says to you,

“Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with loving kindness I have drawn you” (Jeremiah 31:3).

In fact, we can read how

“...God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He

loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses [wrong doings], made us alive together with Messiah..." (Ephesians 2:4-5).

The Bible calls this love *grace*. I used to think grace was defined as "undeserved favor," and I suppose that's part of it, but the Hebrew word חַן (*chen*) pictures a place of protection. As a nomad's camp in the wilderness of Israel consisted of many family tents placed in a circular configuration, forming one continuous wall around the wives, children, and possessions that were most protection to them, so the grace of God is a wall of protection and love around us.¹ He is our Father, and we are precious to Him.

YHWH's favor is what gave us new life in His Son Yeshua.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Through YHWH's justice, He saw us in our sinfulness. In His Torah, He had declared that our sin deserved the death penalty.

But through His grace—His loving protection of those who were precious to Him—He put aside His deity and entered His creation, taking on the form of a man in the person of Yeshua the Messiah, whose name means *Salvation*.

"YHWH looked and was displeased that there was no justice. He saw that

there was no one, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so his own arm worked *salvation* for him, and his own righteousness sustained him" (Isaiah 59:15-16).

After living a perfect, sinless life, He took our punishment of death upon Himself. He didn't stay dead (He was God, after all!).

Because of His grace—His loving protection—He offers to breathe life into our spiritual lifelessness as well.

Through His grace—His loving protection—YHWH also reconciles us to Himself. Although He is our Father, we rebelled against Him.

Think about it. Did you care two hoots about God or the Bible before He opened your eyes? I remember not only disliking God's Word but hating God! However, because of His grace—His loving protection—

"He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father" (Ephesians 2:17-18).

He was the great Peacemaker, and now we can be welcomed back into His family.

Why does He extend His grace—His loving protection—to us? His Word answers,

"For we are His workmanship, created in Messiah Yeshua for good works, which God prepared beforehand that

¹ <https://www.ancient-hebrew.org/ahlb/hhet.html#2580>

we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:10).

The beautiful poetry of the Psalmist describes it,

My frame was not hidden from You,
When I was made in secret,
And skillfully wrought in the lowest
parts of the earth.
Your eyes saw my substance, being
yet unformed.
And in Your book they all were
written,
The days fashioned for me,
When as yet there were none of
them. (Psalm 139:15-16)

Through His grace—His loving protection—YHVH has great plans for your life and eternal plans to bring you into His eternal kingdom. He says,

“Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure” (Philippians 2:12-13).

Just as we can’t save ourselves, we also can’t change ourselves. Only YHVH, through His grace, can take our sin-filled lives and fill us instead with hope.

But did you see the action verb in the verse above?

“Work out your own salvation,” it said! Didn’t I just say that salvation was by grace alone, and not of our own works (lest we should boast)?

Yes, but this is why we need to

understand what the word grace means. It is not a ticket to do whatever we want to do. Sin brings death! If we thought grace meant that we could now just live it up, with no regard to pleasing Him, we would be destroying the beautiful place of protection He brought us to.

No, His grace is His loving plan to rescue us from the “wages of sin,” which is death. He rescued us because we are of great value to Him.

And now that God has saved us by His grace, He definitely has work for us to do! In fact, the Bible is clear about how we can know that He has given us new life:

“Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, ‘I know Him,’ and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him” (1 John 2:3-4).



Heart Check:

- Have you accepted YHVH’s grace—His loving protection? Have you been reconciled to Him through Yeshua’s death in your place? Was there a time in your life when you asked God to forgive you, repenting of your sin and rebellion against His holy Torah? If not, will you come to Him today?

Knowing God

How can we know God (and therefore, learn to keep His commandments)?

The church in Rome, way back in the first century, must have asked a similar question, because Paul talked about it in a letter he wrote to them:

“But the basic reality of God is plain enough. Open your eyes and there it is! By taking a long and thoughtful look at what God has created, people have always been able to see what their eyes as such can’t see: eternal power, for instance, and the mystery of his divine being” (Romans 1:19-20, MSG).

Our family used to live in northeast Arizona, about two hours from the Grand Canyon. Everywhere around, we saw incredible evidence of the hand of a Creator in nature. In fact, we often told our children that YHVH must have had a sense of humor when He made our part of the world. For instance, not far from our home was a giant, upside-down, triangular rock, perfectly balanced on just a few inches of stone! Only a Master Designer could have made such an amazing world.

You’ve surely noticed how fabulous the world around you is as well.

But is the splendor of nature enough to give you all the information you need to follow the commands of God?

No, it’s not enough for you, and it wasn’t enough for those Roman believers

two centuries ago, either.

“People knew God perfectly well, but when they didn’t treat him like God, refusing to worship him, they trivialized themselves into silliness and confusion so that there was neither sense nor direction left in their lives. They pretended to know it all, but were illiterate regarding life. They traded the glory of God who holds the whole world in his hands for cheap figurines you can buy at any roadside stand.

“So God said, in effect, ‘If that’s what you want, that’s what you get.’ It wasn’t long before they were living in a pigpen, smeared with filth, filthy inside and out. And all this because they traded the true God for a fake god, and worshiped the god they made instead of the God who made them—the God we bless, the God who blesses us.... Since they didn’t bother to acknowledge God, God quit bothering them and let them run loose” (Romans 1:21-28, MSG).

Often people think that they can get to know YHVH by their own logic and reasoning. But His Word says that before we were spiritually reborn, it was impossible for us to reason our way to God. In fact, the things of God were just plain foolishness to us!

“The natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can

he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Corinthians 2:14).

So YHVH's greatest revelation to us came in the form of His own dear Son, Yeshua.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men" (John 1:1-4).

In these verses, Yeshua is called the Word, or the *logos*. He was YHVH's message to us.

We once had a dog named Penny. She was a sweet black-lab puppy. As sweet as she was, she didn't seem to understand that only bones are for chewing—not our children's toys. Time after time we told her, we warned her, and we scolded her—yet she still didn't understand! How often I wished I could be a puppy for a few hours so I could explain to her all the rules of our house.

This is exactly what YHVH did.

"Messiah Yeshua, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became

obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Yeshua every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Yeshua the Messiah is Master, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:5-11, NKJV).

Yeshua said,

"If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him" (John 14:7).

Knowing Yeshua is equal to knowing God Himself.

But how can we really know Yeshua? After all, He lived 2,000 years ago! Since He was an actual historical figure, you could read about Him in the accounts of Josephus and other first-century historians.

But YHVH gave us the gift of a perfect written record, not only of Yeshua the Messiah, but also of God's plan for us since time began.

The Bible states it this way:

"These are written that you may believe that Yeshua is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:31).

The written Word of God is sufficient to bring us to a knowledge of YHVH. In fact,

“His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue” (2 Peter 1:3).

So let’s review.

The best way for us to know God intimately is through His Word, and in fact, this is exactly what Paul reminded his fellow-worker Timothy back in the days after Yeshua returned to the Father.

“But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them (his mother and grandmother), and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Messiah Yeshua...” (2 Timothy 3:14-15).

Then Paul reminded Timothy of the source of Scripture—the very key to its power!

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God” (2 Timothy 3:16).

Peter described exactly how it worked when he wrote,

“For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as

they were moved by the Holy Spirit” (2 Peter 1:21).

When we say that Scripture is inspired, we mean that it is “God-breathed.”

Yes, YHVH used people, with all their unique personalities and passions, to write down His message to us, exactly as He wanted it written, without error.

But we must remember that YHVH breathed His words into the mouths and pens of His prophets.

Paul reinforced this idea when he wrote to the congregation in the city of Thessalonica,

“When you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God” (1 Thessalonians 2:13).

That’s why we can put so much confidence in the truth of our Bibles. Because of God’s direct participation in the writing of the Bible, we can obviously conclude that it is

- perfect.
- without error (inerrant).

Yeshua said,

“For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled” (Matthew 5:18).

Many view the incredible accuracy of Bible prophecy as one of the most convincing proofs of the inerrancy of

the Scripture. In light of the thousands of prophecies found in God's Word, one old pastor said, "I believe that those who say that the Bible was written by men are simply expressing their own ignorance of the subject."

The authors of Scripture acknowledged the accuracy of other books of the Bible.

- Yeshua recognized the writings of the Old Testament.
- Peter recognized Paul's letters to the churches as part of Scripture.
- In addition, history and archaeology have confirmed in all cases that Scriptural accounts are accurate.
- Finally, all sixty-six books of the Bible agree with each other, an unbelievable feat considering that they were written over a 1500-year time span and by 40 different authors.



Heart Check:

- Some people say the Bible is just a classic piece of literature, like Milton or Shakespeare. Others say the Bible only contains the Word of God—that there are bits of truth, but you have to sift through the myths to find it. How about you? Do you believe the Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God?
- Here's how you'll know: How much do you obey?

The Profit of Scripture

So we must ask ourselves: If the Bible is inspired of God and without error, how does this affect how we read our Bibles and how we live our everyday lives?

Well, this is the very reason Paul wanted to point his young friend Timothy to the source of Scripture in the first place. Listen to what Paul writes:

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man [or woman] of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

First of all, the Scripture is profitable for doctrine. Doctrine is a set of teachings. In this case, we're talking about the instruction manual YHVH gave you for life. Doctrine sounds stodgy and boring, but actually, knowing YHVH's instructions is very liberating! You won't have to worry whether what you believe is a myth, made up by who-knows-who. You'll have a confidence that can only come when your foundational beliefs are based on a firm foundation.

Second, Scripture is profitable for reproof. Reproof is YHVH's warning to us. This is how, through the pages of our Bibles, the Spirit (breath) of Elohim shows us we're making mistakes. Reproof is an expression of His love for us.

"For whom YHWH loves He corrects, just as a father the son [or daughter] in whom he delights" (Proverbs 3:12).

If He didn't love us, He wouldn't care what kind of trouble we got ourselves into. But since He loves us very much, He uses His Word to continually warn us and change us.

Third, Scripture is profitable for correction. Not only does YHWH show us our errors, but He also tells us how to fix them. Indeed, applying Scripture to our problems can give us great wisdom and protect us from incredible harm!

Finally, Scripture is profitable for instruction in righteousness. Did you know YHWH has great plans for you? He tells us,

"The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter till the full light of day" (Proverbs 4:18).

Through the gift of His Word, He becomes our best Teacher, remaking our character until we shine as bright as His own Son Yeshua!

His goal is that we may be perfect, or spiritually mature, and "thoroughly equipped for every good work." The Holy Spirit takes the Word of God and begins to gradually renew our minds.

Our job is to take the abilities He gave us, to commit to read His Word and apply it to our lives.

Doesn't this make you want to praise Him? Well, thousands of years ago, King David felt the same way! He wrote,

"I will praise You with uprightness of heart, when I learn Your righteous judgments" (Psalm 119:7).

Just as we help fledgling tomato plants grow strong and tall by staking them, God ties our hearts close to His protection with the righteous judgments in His Torah.



Heart Check:

- Are you ready to let YHWH breathe into your life through the pages of His Word? Are you ready to let Him teach you, reprove you, correct you and guide you?
- Is your mind already starting to formulate a plan for how you can make YHWH's Word the top priority in your day?

A Sober Mind

The Word of YHWH is the "missing link" in the puzzle of how He reveals Himself to us.

We can learn about God by seeing His creation, and we can see God in the form of His Son Yeshua, but we can know Him personally as we dig deeply into the Bible.

However, James warns us that just knowing *about* God is not enough.

"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves" (James 1:22).

Remember how I said we needed

to "work out" our salvation? Blessing comes in three ways as we begin to know God:

- Looking—As we study our Bibles.
- Remembering—As we use methods to recall what we've learned, when we need it.
- Doing—As we apply what we learn to our lives, so that our knowledge is put to good use.

In order to look, remember and do what the Bible says, we need to have what the Bible calls a "sober mind."

Peter said:

"gird up the loins of your mind, be sober..." (1 Peter 1:13).

YHWH wants us to be looking all around, aware of how Satan wants to deceive us.

Peter also wrote,

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

Don't be like a drunk person who unwittingly stumbles into trouble; rather,

"casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, [bring] every thought into captivity to the obedience of Messiah" (2 Corinthians 10:5).

We are to use the "sober mind" YHWH

has given us. We are to take control of our thoughts and discipline ourselves to think His thoughts instead of our own.

We do this by looking at His Word on a daily basis, remembering what His Word tells us, and most importantly, by doing what He says.

Scripture has stern warnings for those who decide it's not worth their time to "work out their own salvation" by cultivating a sober mind. Paul writes of a time when

"they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables" (2 Timothy 4:3-4).

One summer day, we were sitting at a table at a fast food joint, watching our children play on the playground equipment. From our vantage point, we could see every person who came in or left the restaurant. We couldn't help but notice how many people were wearing shirts that advertised God or a church.

Later that afternoon, as we stopped at the ATM to withdraw cash, Kraig surveyed a bulletin board hanging on the wall. Over half of the fliers advertised evangelistic meetings, vacation Bible schools, or other summer church programs.

Yet the people in that area didn't seem to know God! In that rural community, with a population of fewer than 5,000

people, fewer than 100 regularly attended church each week. What happened after they attended an evangelistic service? Why did they never grow, never seeking out fellowship with other believers or wondering how to live in a way that pleased YHVH? Why did they so easily fall prey to the myriads of lies presented to them by New Age, paganism, or witchcraft?

They had no firm foundation.

Judges 2 describes how the people of Israel also lacked a firm foundation of commitment to YHVH. Their ancestors had witnessed His provision, His sign, and His miracles, and they had an emotional response to God.

Yet when life settled down after entering the Promised Land, it became obvious that their hearts had never changed. Much of the reason for this is because they failed to follow YHVH's instruction to their leaders:

"This Book of the Torah shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success..." (Joshua 1:8).

Doesn't this remind you of the people I saw that day at the fast food restaurant? So many people go from one spiritual guru to the next, looking for someone who can scratch their particular itch. They crave experiences and emotions,

yet they have "turned their ears away from the truth."

Paul also warns of people who crave human rules and structure, even when the authority is above and beyond what God says in His Word. They add to what He wrote, making it sound like their additions are on the same level with His commands.

"Therefore, if you died with Messiah from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations—'Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,' which all concern things which perish with the using—according to the commandments and doctrines of men? These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh" (Colossians 2:22-23).

These people are looking for worldly animals to follow—otters and badgers: "You otter do this," or "I'll badger you to do this!"

We women are very open to the world's thinking, more vulnerable than we like to admit!

"But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving,

unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!" (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

But then Paul drives his point home.

"For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts" (2 Timothy 3:6).

Oh, dear! Look how Paul describes these gullible women! They are:

"...always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (2 Timothy 3:7).

To faithful Timothy, Paul writes,

"But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long suffering, love, perseverance..." and more (2 Timothy 3:10).

Peter agrees when he writes,

"For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing

measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Master Yeshua the Messiah" (2 Peter 1:5-8).

We need to be like the followers of the Way in the first-century city of Berea.

"[They] received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11).



Heart Check:

- Do you shy away from having to think too much? Would you rather that someone else told you what to think? Are you seeking for an emotional high rather than a sober mind?
- Is it your habit to compare Scripture with Scripture in an effort to know the truth? Do you know how?



Let's Pray...

Blessed are you, YHVH our Elohim, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments.

I am guilty of depending on emotions rather than cultivating a sober mind. Please forgive us! I acknowledge that your Word contains the complete, inspired, and inerrant Word of God.

I might not know how to study my Bible, but I'm asking for your help as I begin to learn. Please renew my mind.

In Yeshua's name I pray, Amen.



03

HIS WORD, MY DELIGHT

Are you eager to begin formulating a plan for how you can make YHWH's Word the top priority in your day?

As we saw in chapter one, it is very important that we all learn how to look into the Scriptures, remember what we read, and do what YHWH asks of us.

Hidden deep within the “dusty” pages of the Old Testament are instructions that God gave to the kings of Israel. After specific rules about who could be king, how he should acquire wealth, and how many wives he could have, God gave a prescription for being godly:

“Also it shall be, when he sits on the

throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear YHWH his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel” (Deuteronomy 17:18-20).

Do you wish you could walk with YHVH, not turning aside for any reason, to the right hand or the left?

We do! We don't want to stumble. We want to be successful in God's eyes.

God's instructions for kings are very helpful for all people. Let's look at it, step by step.

Your Copy of Scripture

In the days of Israel's kings, the priests in the Temple were the sacred caretakers of the Torah. However, YHVH wanted the king to be able to access His Torah as well.

Rather than asking the priests to photocopy their master copy and rush it over to the palace, YHVH had a better idea. The king would make his own copy by writing it with his own hand!

This may seem basic, but do you own a copy of the Bible, YHVH's Word? I have noticed that the majority of homes in America fall into one of three categories:

1. They own no Bible at all (even though they may have invested hundreds of dollars into electronic devices, video games, televisions, or books).
2. They own a Bible... somewhere... in a box in a closet. (Where did I put that box?)
3. They own so many Bibles that they really don't have just one that is special and well used.

We live in such an affluent society that we have more Bibles available to us than we know what to do with. But that doesn't mean we take advantage of this potential spiritual wealth.

If you're one of the rare individuals who has a well-worn copy of the Bible and it's so special to you that you'd grab it first in the event of a house fire, then please don't feel like you need to buy something new.

But if you really do need to go out and purchase a new copy of the Bible, here are some tips that might help:

- Choose a good size. You'll want a Bible that's easy to carry to church, in a suitcase, from room to room in your home, maybe even in your car as you go out on errands and might want to read it while you're stuck waiting in traffic.
- Choose an appropriate style. Do you want wide margins for taking notes? Pages that can stand up to repeated use of a highlighter? How about the binding? Paper, hardcover, imitation or genuine leather? Would a carrying case or cover be helpful?
- Choose good study notes. This is probably one of the biggest decisions you'll make as you purchase a Bible. Be sure to look at many kinds of Bibles before you decide. You'll be able to choose between explanatory notes, cross references, footnotes, devotional writings, dictionaries

and concordances, maps, reading schedules and more. Some of them will tell you that you don't need to obey YHWH's Torah. Shy away from these!

- Choose a translation. John Wycliffe first translated the Bible into English in 1382, and since then, we've all had to decide between a vast number of English "versions" of the Bible. We prefer the New King James Version in our house because of the accuracy of the Hebrew and Greek manuscripts from which it was translated, but it's still not perfect. Only the original manuscripts are perfect, which is a big reason why we work to learn how to read the Bible in Hebrew and Greek. Meanwhile, the best Bible is the Bible you'll read. You can learn to check the translation's accuracy through Bible-study tools freely available online.

Once you have chosen a copy of the Scriptures for yourself, you may also want to get a few other basic supplies, such as a set of highlighters, some pens or pencils to keep with your Bible, a carrying case, or a journal in which to take notes.

Before we leave this discussion, I just want to observe that the ancient kings of Israel were commanded to copy the Torah by hand. Can you imagine how well they would know the instructions of YHWH when they were finished?

This process would have required a huge investment of time by a new king who surely had more pressing matters to attend to. He certainly could have hired scribes to complete the copying job for him. Yet YHWH told him to do it himself.

Keep in mind that your knowledge of the Word of God will be directly proportional to the amount of effort you expend. You also have other things to do in your day, some of which are urgent.

However, the wisdom of YHWH is more urgent than anything else. You may wish to purchase a journal and begin hand-copying portions of Scripture for yourself.

Your Possession of God's Word

YHWH instructed the kings of Israel to keep their copies of the Torah with them. Do you think He meant this literally? I do!

Let's consider the promises to the nation of Israel, if they would be obedient to YHWH's Torah:

"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love YHWH your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and YHWH your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess" (Deuteronomy 30:15-16).

However, notice the curse of God if they were disobedient:

“But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess” (Deuteronomy 30:17-18).

Therefore, it would have been wise for Israel’s king to literally keep YHVH’s Torah with him at all times. When he went to battle, his copy of the law should have been beside him. When he held feasts, it should have sat in front of him on the table. It should have held a place of prominence next to him in his throne room.

The Bible doesn’t mention any kings who actually obeyed this command, but it would certainly be wise for us today.

We happen to own several copies of the Bible, many of them quite inexpensive, so instead of stacking them together on a bookshelf, we enjoy placing them around our home.

- We have a Bible on the coffee table in the living room, ready to be picked up when someone is resting or meeting with a friend.
- We have a Bible in the bathroom so that we can read it first thing in the morning or at any time that we happen to be in there during the day.

- Anne has her favorite copy next to her computer, which also happens to be in the dining room, a room in which she spends the majority of her time, between writing curriculum and homeschooling our children around the table.
- Kraig has a Bible next to our bed, since this is where he does most of his reading, and another Bible on his desk.
- Our children each own their own Bibles, and they keep them with their schoolbooks.
- We have downloaded Bibles onto each of our devices. Our goal is to have Bibles ready so that anywhere we go, we can access YHVH’s Word.

Throughout time and even much of the world today, people haven’t had such free access to the Bible. However, since we do, we want to take advantage of it!

Only One Thing Is Needed

Yeshua and his twelve disciples were traveling to Jerusalem when they stopped at the town of Bethany. A dear friend named Martha had opened her home to them. It was a very gracious thing to do, especially considering how many extra mouths it would be to feed. It’s not like she would be able to order pizza for supper! She was surely aware of the extra work it would require of her.

A lot of preparations had to be made! She woke up early and started soup. Next she made a list of all the food she'd make that day. It made her heart flutter, but she knew YHVH would help her. She bravely went to the well for plenty of water (much more than normal), then she took a quick trip to the market for some purchases before it got too hot.

But it did get hot! By the time she got home, her hair was sticking to her face. Never mind, she thought, as she started chopping vegetables.

As she worked, her mind was racing, thinking through every detail of the evening's meal and tomorrow's breakfast. She fully intended to have everything ready by the time Yeshua and his disciples arrived that afternoon, but it just wasn't possible. She warmly greeted all the guests, got them drinks, and washed their feet, then she scurried back to the kitchen.

She tried not to feel a little envious of her sister Mary, who had admittedly helped her quite a bit that day but was now sitting near the feet of Yeshua, listening to all that He said. Martha could hear a little bit of the conversation, but it was tough with the gurgling pots on the stove making so much noise.

After supper, it was back in the kitchen to do dishes—a lot of them! The sun had long ago set and yet the plates were stacked. Furthermore, she had run out of clean water and would need to make a trip to the well before she could even start. Her feet ached and her back protested.

She heard laughter coming from the other room.

That's it! She dried her hands on the towel and threw it down, marching angrily up to her sister.

"Master, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

The room was instantly quiet. All the men were sympathetic, and Mary looked embarrassed. She hadn't intended to hurt her sister. It was just that she knew that visits with Yeshua were few and far between. She badly wanted to learn as much as she could from Him. Dishes would be harder to scrub tomorrow, but still... they could wait, couldn't they?

Yeshua's answer was kind. "Martha, Martha." Just saying her name twice helped Martha calm down. She knew He really cared about her and loved her.

"Martha, Martha,' the Master answered, 'you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her'" (Luke 10:41-42).

Dear homeschooling mother, Yeshua is saying the same thing to you today. You also are worried and upset about many things. Maybe your feet ache. Maybe you worry about how you're going to pay for it all.

However, in the midst of the chaos, you can make a choice. You can choose what is better.

What is this "better" thing? Simply, it's

time with Yeshua.

He might not make the work go away. He might not miraculously heal you or make your struggles disappear. However, He wants to offer you something better. He offers you Himself.

When the panic hits, choose to let it go. Put your dish towel down, and go to Yeshua. Get alone with Him. The dishes can wait.

Time with Yeshua

There are several steps to making time with Yeshua a priority.

(And remember: Time with Yeshua is the same thing as time with YHVH, which is the same thing as taking the time for His Spirit—His breath—to speak through His Word.)

You can use these steps to help you make this time with Yeshua more important than anything else in your life.

“Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of YHVH, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers” (Psalm 1:1-3).

These verses tell us that we need to meditate on the Torah of YHVH day and night.

- We need to meditate. This

meditation is not the same as “mindfulness,” where we empty our minds. Rather, the biblical meaning of meditation is to think about YHVH’s words, over and over, intentionally bringing them up again in our minds so that we can digest them better and put them into practice in our lives.

- We need to meditate on God’s Torah. It’s easy to think that our time with Torah will be all “fluff and frills,” where He tells us feel-good things that help us start our day right. However, meditating on God’s Torah is often more like eating our vegetables, rather than just eating dessert. It’s fine to meditate on how much YHVH loves you, for instance, but for your spiritual and mental health, you need to meditate on God’s commands as given in His Torah.
- We need to meditate day and night. We need to make time in the Bible (where we’ll find His commands written down) a part of our daily schedule.

We do many things “day and night.” For instance, each day and night we:

- Breathe
- Eat
- Brush our teeth
- Make our bed
- Dump the mail on the kitchen counter
- Bite our fingernails
- Go to sleep

For good or for bad, habits control our lives. Now, let's think about how habits are formed, so we can form the habit of meditating on God's Word "day and night."

Eating: My grandmother was diabetic, and because of the advanced condition of her disease, she had to carefully monitor not only what she ate but exactly when she ate. She lived with my parents, and my mother was in charge of Grandma's diet. Mom made a detailed schedule of Grandma's day, including meal times, times to take medications, times to check blood sugar levels, and foods that she could and could not eat. Everyone in their house followed Grandma's meal schedule. Then, Mom wrote down what really did happen in a journal, including all those blood sugar levels, so that if Grandma needed medical attention, Mom could inform the doctors exactly what had happened. It saved her life several times!

Brushing Our Teeth: When I taught my children how to brush their teeth, first I did it for them, then I helped them by doing it with them (putting the toothpaste on, holding their arm while they learn to brush, etc.), then I watched while they did it. Eventually I only checked on them periodically.

Of course, this happened over several years. (I also used sticker charts and other incentives to help them get into the habit and to help me remember to teach them.)

Making the Bed: I don't always enjoy household chores, so I require myself to make my bed first thing each morning. I have found that once I walk out the bedroom door, I can find a million and one excuses not to have to come back in again!

Dumping the Mail on the Kitchen Counter: Why do we do this?! Because it's convenient! Because we're lazy! Because there is more room to put the mail there than on the messy desk that is in the room that is way down the hall....

Can you see what I'm getting at? It takes planning, routine, and effort to make a habit.

As we think about making time with Yeshua a habit, try these ideas:

- **Write down why it is so important to you.** In the case of my grandmother, her habits were life-saving. Think about how urgent it is for you to be spiritually fed!
- **Find a time in your day to schedule it.** This is important, even if you're not generally a schedule-abiding person. I recommend that you follow the Psalmist's advice and choose times that are first thing in the morning and last thing at night.
- **Find an accountability partner.** First, try reading the Bible together a few times, so that you can learn from the other

person's experience. Then work out a routine where you can meet periodically for prayer and discussion of what you have learned, even if it's by Zoom or Facetime. Make a habit of checking with each other by text or phone.

- **Make a chart.** You could even put stickers on it! Put the chart in a conspicuous place where you'll see it often, or where you'll be motivated to be consistent because others will see it. (The refrigerator or by your bathroom mirror are both good choices.)
- **Make this rule: "No Bible, no breakfast."** As in the case of making your bed, you'll probably find that once you pass breakfast, you're very unlikely to find the time to read your Bible again. The day just gets too hectic! Remind yourself that you shouldn't feed yourself physically if you have been too lazy to feed yourself spiritually. (Note: It is wise for mothers of young children to wake up before they do, since it might be the last quiet moment they have all day!)
- **Make it convenient.** If you'll keep a Bible in a place where it's easy to see and use, you'll be more likely to read it. I have several Bibles, one in my purse, a digital version on my phone, one at my desk, and even one in the bathroom. Since I take a shower, brush my

teeth, and apply at least a touch of make-up every morning, I like to have a Bible sitting in a basket right next to the sink. If I had to walk across the house to get a Bible, I'd probably be too lazy to do it.

Several of my friends have told me that they read books about God, read devotionals written by other believers, or watch a myriad of videos by their favorite ministries.

While these are okay, I want to warn you that nothing can substitute for reading the Bible directly. I'm afraid that many believers are malnourished spiritually because they only eat spiritual food that has been "processed," served "fast-food style," or is even "spoon fed" to them directly. If you're a new believer (a "baby," as Scripture states it), you may need the help. But very soon, you need to advance to spiritual "meat" by digging into God's Word directly!

My personal opinion is that the best way to read the Bible is to begin at the beginning—in Genesis—but when I surveyed a group of Christian women, only one was doing that. You desperately need the counsel and the perspective given in the Torah, which begins in Genesis.

I urge you to find a pretty bookmark, place it at Genesis 1:1, and begin to read.

- Fifteen minutes a day is a good place to start. I personally find that reading a couple chapters works well for me.

- Some days I'm hungry for more, and then there are days that I find a gem after a couple verses and decide to stop there. Leave your bookmark in your Bible, and begin again tomorrow.
- Keep reading until you finish the entire Bible! You probably won't be done in a year this way, but then again, you also will have time to read more slowly or more quickly as the Spirit leads.
- In the evening, before bed, you might want to quickly read through a Proverb or Psalm.
- Get in the habit of copying a verse (or two or three) into your journal every day, just as the kings of Israel did. Hang especially favorite verses in a place where you can memorize them, such as over your kitchen sink.

Let's Pray...

Blessed are you, YHVH our Elohim, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments.

Help me to remember that only one thing is needful in this life, and that is sitting at your feet.

Help me cultivate wise habits, making your Torah my meditation day and night.

In Yeshua's name I pray, Amen.

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